

PROJECT GO – Get Outdoors
February 18-19, 2006
Held in conjunction with Free Fishing Weekend
No Motor Vehicle Permits required for entry to state parks and recreation areas

LOCATION	DATE	TIME	ADDITIONAL INFO	DESCRIPTION OF EVENTS
Barry County Yankee Springs Recreation Area and Barry State Game Area	February 18-19, 2006	Times are variable for all events.	Ben Stapish 269-795-9081	Enjoy the revived Gun Lake Winter Festival with a host of activities at the state park, the state game area and nearby businesses. A three-mile trail hike, cross-country skiing, ice fishing and host of fun events are planned for the entire weekend for all ages.
Bay County Bay City State Recreation Area	Saturday, February 18, 2006	9 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Valerie Blaschka 989-667-0717 Michael Evanoff 989-684-3020	Sponsored by the Friends of the Bay City State Recreation Area. Discover new ways to enjoy winter's great outdoors at our winter festival. Some of the activities include a youth ice fishing clinic and fishing derby, kids' crafts, bird identification trail and a Candlelight ski/hike trail with hot cocoa and cider. There will be activities for all ages throughout the day.
Charlevoix County Young State Park	Saturday, February 18, 2006	3 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Sue Rose 231-582-7523	Guided snowshoe nature hike and night-time cross country skiing. Enjoy a campfire on the beach with hot chocolate to warm up.
Chippewa County Tahquamenon Falls State Park	Saturday, February 18, 2006	10 a.m.	Theresa Grattan 906-492-3415	Join the park interpreter for a guided two-mile nature hike beginning at the Lower Falls campground office. Bring binoculars, as many different bird species may be spotted on our way to viewing the beautiful lower falls.
Crawford County Hartwick Pines State Park	Saturday, February 18, 2006	1-3 p.m.	Craig Kasmer 989-348-2537	Take a guided walk through the Old Growth Forest on snowshoes. A limited number of snowshoes are available for use, so please pre-register for this event by calling ahead.
Grand Traverse Traverse City Recreation Area	Saturday, February 18, 2006	2-8 p.m.	David Johns 231-922-5270 Pre-registration is required.	Up to 45 pairs of snowshoes are available to explore the perimeter of the campground or use the TART Trail to explore the nearby Reffitt Nature Center. A scavenger hunt is planned and Backcountry Outfitters, a camping, hiking and kayaking vendor from Traverse City, will set up a winter camping demo in the organizational camping area.

Ionia County Ionia State Recreation Area	Sunday. February 19, 2006	11 a.m. – MUSH Demonstration 1 p.m. – Fun Run	Ted Kessler 616-527-3750	See MUSH teams in action and then join the Ionia High School <i>Dawgs</i> Track & Cross Country Teams for a fun run starting from the Beach Parking Lot. Warm up with Free Hot Chocolate served at the beach house. Celebrate <i>Free Fishing Weekend</i> (no license required) by fishing Sessions Lake, Session's Creek, Tibbits Creek or the Grand River.
Jackson County Waterloo Recreation Area	Saturday, February 18, 2006	10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Laurel Malvitz 248-685-2187	Help save a wetland. Volunteers will be removing invasive shrubs that threaten to take over this beautiful fen ecosystem. Meet at the southeast corner of Glenn and Mt. Hope roads. Roadside parking only.
Jackson County Waterloo Recreation Area	Saturday, February 18, 2006	11 a.m.- Portage Lake Campground Winter Hike	Kathy Kavanagh 734-475-3170	Join the park interpreter for a Winter Hike on the Dry Marsh Trail. Winter is a great season for hiking. No bugs biting, and hiking puts cabin fever at bay while warming you up. There is an outdoor adventure awaiting you that is different in winter than in any other season.
Livingston County Brighton Recreation Area	Saturday, February 18, 2006	10 a.m. (Signup begins at 8:30 a.m.)	Jim or Joyce Donaldson 419-829-2398 www.eliteendeavors.com	Frost Yer Fanny AGAIN, a Wild and Wacky Trail Run along the 5-mile Penosha Trail. Soup and hot cider will be served after the race. All events will be out of doors so dress accordingly!
Mason County Ludington State Park	Saturday, February 18, 2006	1 p.m. and 3 p.m.	Alan Wernette 231-843-9261	Two guided snowshoe hikes are planned and 40 pairs of snowshoes are available on a first-come, first served basis for ages 10 and up. Children under 10 are welcomed to create snow sculptures. Refreshments and prizes will be available.
Monroe County Sterling State Park	Saturday, February 18, 2006	10:30 and 11 a.m.	Monroe County Tourism Bureau 734-457-1030	The first annual Lake Erie Muskrat Run, a 5K run for adults and a "muskrat mile" for youths of all ages. Advanced registration and entry fee required. Prizes to all participants. Meet at the Midway Shelter. Other activities include, fishing/ice fishing demo and a bird watching tour. All events sponsored by the Monroe County Tourism Bureau.
Muskegon County Muskegon Winter Sports Complex at Muskegon State Park	Sunday, February 19, 2006	All Day	Ellen Berends 231-744-9629	Enjoy a FREE Community Day! Sample all the amenities of this location completely free – cross-country ski, ice skate and luge. Even equipment rental and refreshments are FREE. Burgers, hot dogs and Coke will be available courtesy of Coca-Cola and the Alcoa Foundation for Howmet Castings.
Ogemaw County Rifle River Recreation Area Grousehaven Lake Boating Access Site	Saturday, February 18, 2006	10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	Steve Krantz or Lori Ruff 989-473-2258	10 a.m.: Ice Fishing Tips and Techniques: Bring your ice fishing gear and learn from experienced fisherman! Sledding, ice skating, cross-country skiing and snow shoeing events scheduled too. Free hotdogs and hot cocoa.

Ontonagon County Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park	Saturday, February 18, 2006	1:30 p.m.(ET) Snowshoe Hike 6-9 p.m. (ET) Lighted Cross Country Skiing and Bonfire Storytelling	All events sponsored by the Friends of the Porkies. Contact: Bob Wild 906-885-5275	The Deer Yard Snowshoe Hike begins at 1:30 p.m. EST. Participants can bring their own snowshoes or borrow a pair from the park. Meet at the Whitetail Cabin parking area (just past the ski hill) for this 90-minute hike. The Lantern-Light Cross-Country Skiing takes place on the Superior Loop Trail from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. EST. Stop about halfway around the loop at the warming shelter to enjoy a cozy campfire
St. Clair County Algonac State Park	Saturday, February 18, 2006	10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Steve Pondo or Tom Bissett 810-765-5605 Even co-sponsored by the Michigan Geocaching Organization http://mi-geocaching.org/	Enjoy a Geocaching Scavenger Hunt. Meet at the park headquarters at 10 a.m. for coffee and donuts and review the contest rules. At 10:30 a.m. a list with the coordinates of ten objects hidden throughout the park will be distributed. The first three teams to locate these and return with the correct identification of them win prizes. Bring your own GPS unit, only one allowed per team. All caches reachable on foot and all searchers must be on foot. Caches must be returned to where they were found upon discovery. No digging required!
Washtenaw County Pinckney Recreation Area	Sunday, February 19, 2006	1 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Laurel Malvitz 248-685-2187	Help remove autumn olive and small evergreens that don't belong in this dry sand prairie ecosystem. Clearing out these non-native plants makes room for rare, native plants that do belong. Meet at the Halfmoon Lake parking lot off Hankerd Road.
Washtenaw County Pinckney Recreation Area	Sunday, February 19, 2006	Check-in: 9 a.m. Race starts: 10 a.m.	Pre-registration is required: http://www.infiterrasports.com/trail_run.htm	After Checking in at the Silver Lake parking area, this second of three winter endurance races crosses five miles of rough terrain. Snow may actually make the race easier. All proceeds benefit Macomb County Special Olympics.
Washtenaw County Waterloo Recreation Area's Eddy Discovery Center	Saturday, February 18, 2006	2 p.m. Eddy Discovery Center Incredible Insects and Spectacular Spiders	Kathy Kavanagh 734-475-3170 Pre-registration required for this program	Join us for Incredible Insects & Spectacular Spiders, a fun interactive program presented by Gary Dunn of the Young Entomologists Society. Learn more about the lifestyles of these creatures and why they are important. Some live examples will be included. Registration required for this program.